

Message Text

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ORIGIN ARA-10

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DRAFTED BY ARA-LA/BRTSHUGART:DB

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USDOC/OIM/BIC:IJOHNSON(SUBS)

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY BRASILIA IMMEDIATE

INFO AMCONSUL RIO DE JANEIRO PRIORITY

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: ETRD, BR

SUBJECT: U.S.-BRAZIL TRADE

REF:FEB. 4 RUSER/SHUGART TELCON AND BRASILIA 0897

1. ACCORDING TO USDOC DATA FOR 1975, BRAZIL'S DEFICIT IN TRADE WITH U.S. ROSE TO DOLS. 1,591.9 MILLION (AN INCREASE OF DOLS. 207.9 MILLION OVER 1974 DEFICIT), DESPITE DOLS. 32.6 MILLION FALL IN U.S. EXPORTS TO THAT COUNTRY. AS FOLLOWING FIGURES INDICATE, DECLINE IN IMPORTS FROM BRAZIL CONSISTENT WITH GLOBAL AND REGIONAL TRENDS IN U.S. TRADE REFLECTING DECREASE IN IMPORT DEMAND INHERENT IN 1975 SLOWDOWN IN U.S. ECONOMIC ACTIVITY.

2. (MILLIONS OF U.S. DOLS.) 1974 1975
U.S. EXPORTS TO BRAZIL 3,088.8 3,056.2
U.S. IMPORTS FROM BRAZIL 1,704.8 1,464.3
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3.U.S. EXPORTS TO WESTERN

HEMISPHERE, EXCLUDING CANADA 15,803.2 17,105.7

U.S. IMPORTS FROM WESTERN

HEMISPHERE, EXCLUDING CANADA 18,417.8 16,066.4

4. TOTAL U.S. EXPORTS 98,507.2 107,651.8

TOTAL U.S. IMPORTS 100,997.3 96,940.3

5. FIGURES CONTAINED PARA 2 ARE FAS VALUE; THOSE IN PARAS 3 AND 4 ARE BASED ON CUSTOMS VALUATION.

6. REPORT CITED IN JORNAL DO BRASIL ARTICLE REFERS TO FEB. 2 ISSUE OF USDOC PUBLICATION COMMERCE AMERICA, WHICH CONTAINS FORECASTS FOR 1976 U.S. EXPORTS. THE ARTICLE ON LATIN AMERICA PREDICTS U.S. SALES TO BRAZIL WILL DECLINE TO DOLS. 2.5 BILLION, A DECREASE OF 17 PERCENT, DUE TO BRAZIL'S BALANCE OF PAYMENTS PROBLEMS. NO PROJECTION IS GIVEN FOR IMPORTS FROM BRAZIL.

7. OVERALL WE OF COURSE UNABLE TO FORECAST WHAT 1976 HAS IN STORE FOR U.S.-BRAZIL TRADE AS THIS WILL DEPEND FOR MOST PART ON PACE OF U.S. ECONOMIC RECOVERY, AS WELL AS IMPLEMENTATION OF GOB IMPORT RESTRICTIONS. ON BALANCE, HOWEVER, WE BELIEVE IT REASONABLE TO EXPECT EXPANSION IN BRAZIL'S EXPORTS TO U.S. INGERSOLL

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